HOPE TO SOLVE **NEGRO PROBLEM**

Owners Rallying to Support of Harlem's Committee of Thirty.

EXPECT INCREASE OF REAL VALUES

Corporation To Be Formed to Obtain Objects Sought as Quickly as Possible.

The committee of thirty well known of many of the biggest owners of real the southeast corner of East 160th street in the district. Upon the success of this undertaking depends the upbuilding of Harlem into a most attractive home, hotel and retail trade section

caused a stupendous shrinkage of real estate values, and it is hoped that the solution of that problem will result in big enhancement of values and a building

transformation that will be satisfactory to the old property owners of the district. The committee of thirty meets every Tuesday at the Harlem Board of Com-It is composed of Ransom E. Willeox, chairman, and Frank S. Bannister, Louis F. Bernhols, Harry Beirhoff, the Rev. Robert B. Clark, Harry D. Cochrane, Edward J. Dowling, Samuel B. Downes, Thomas C. Edmonds, Charles H. Fuller, John A. Goodwin, James M. Horton, Meyer Jarmulowsky, E. Von der Horst Koch, Robert Levers, John H. Loos, the Rev. D. J. McMillan, Adelbert Nichols, Thomas O'Reilly, George Schaefer, John H. Scully, Thomas F. Scully, Frank A. Shaw, William A. Shelton, George W. Short, Dr. J. Gardner Smith, Martin Ungrich, Samuel Wal-

The committee of thirty says: "The obiect of the Property Owners' Improvement Corporation is 'To improve and advance the interests of property owners and their tenants in general."

Welling.

The work of the corporation will be in the district bounded by 110th street on the south and the Harlem River on the north. Park avenue on the east, and Morningside, St. Nicholas and Bradhurst Property on Sixth Avenue, Oppoavenues on the west. The capital will be \$500,000, to be issued in shares of a par value of \$5 each. Owners are expected to take stock on the basis of one-half of 1 per cent on the assessed values of their real estate for 1914, as provided for in subscription agreement. It is also expected that other business interests will lend assistance to this movement.

The management of this corporation will be in the hands of the stockholders, who will elect their own directors, and movement has the support of many owners, the real estate brokers and local organizations, who will assist in every way possible

"The proposed plan is as follows, viz.: To arrange with the property owners to rent their properties to white tenants. This could be done section by section. thereby not causing an over-supply of vacant apartments and houses at any one time. The united energetic efforts of all will facilitate the procuring of new tenants. To assist owners who are unable basis, as follows, viz.: Make a mortgage loan for the purpose or take a lease of the property. The corporation to lend its assistance in arranging new and the extension of old mortgages for owners who

"To co-operate in organizing a movement for the improvement of the social conditions of the negroes with the following objects, viz.: To create a proper environment in the vicinity of 125th street and Lenox avenue, for the purpose of making the section attractive, to prevent lawlessness and vice, stimulate the construction of modern buildings that will be best suited for their requirements, and aid in promoting the welfare of the negroes generally.

It is believed that by showing good faith in this matter the co-operation of the negro leaders will be obtained. Every known difficulty has been considerd, and ways and means of surmounting such have been provided. This movement has received the en-

dorsement of many of the large institutions that make mortgage loans, who believe that it is practical and feasible, and merits the support of every owner. With the mortgage market in such condition that owners could not procure or continue mortgages, it would be disastrous to the interests of any owner to work against the movement. The success of this plan will re-establish confidence in Harlem real estate, cure the mortgage situation and enhance values, thereby benefitting every one.

"The active co-operation of owners, merchants, mortgage holders and other interests for mutual benefit will insure success. Up to this time you have sufstaring you in the face unless definite mediate action is imperative. It will be to your interest to sign agreement herewith inclosed and return to Frank A. Shaw, chairman of subscription committee."

Lazard Freres Take Space in Equitable Building.

Contracts have been closed through the brokerage firm of Douglas Robinson, rence property, it South Yonkers, This Charles S. Brown Company for the leasing property, which is located at the interse to Lazard Frères, bankers. 6,000 square feet of space on the second floor of the nue, has been completely developed, all Equitable Building, which will be com-

pleted in 1915. The space contracted for by Lazard Freres is at the corner of Nassau and at which the lots have been offered have we had them ready, and owing to the through a private entrance and elevator. Aside from the Equitable Life Assurance Society, which arranged to occupy three ported: of the floors of the huge building when it sold the land to the Du Pont syndicate, this concern is the first to close for space.

Midtown Section Leases.

West 25th street the sixth floor to Max chased Lets Nos. 65 and 66, on which she right of way to the shore front. Rerger, and the fourth floor to Louis will erect a four story apartment house:
Ackerman: also space at No. 28 Fifth W. A. Brockhurst purchased Lots Nos. 67 The Cross & Brown Company leased for evenue to C. T. Willard & Co.

Walet Company.

TO SELL BIG APARTMENT House in West 49th Street Will Be Offered at Auction.

Bryan L. Kennelly will sell at auction in the Exchange Salesroom, for the estate of Elizabeth M. Cauldwell, the Tricourt apartment, at No. 541 to 545 West 49th apartment, with four stores, on a plot 75x100 feet. For the estate of Frederick H. Wills Mr. Kennelly will sell a resi dential property located in Plainfield, N L. known as No. 217 East 7th street, and extending through to the south side of East 6th street. This property is only a short distance from Watchung avenue one of the best known avenues in Plainfield, and contains a large three stor dwelling house. The plot is 110x208 feet On the same day Mr. Kennelly will offer No. 139 East 150th street, near Walton avenue, in The Bronx, a three story frame dwelling house, on a lot 16.81x95.4 feet. On Thursday, at foreclosure sale, Mr. Kennelly will sell No. 834 Union avenue, the five story brick apartment house, on and on Friday the entire front on the side of East 209th street, betwee Decatur avenue and Parkside Place

MANY HOMES BEING BUILT Twenty in Course of Construction at Manhattan Beach Estates.

Despite the snow and cold weather, ome bullding at Manhattan Beach Estates is being carried on in a lively man ner. There are now some twenty new houses in course of construction, which, the officers of the company state, is most inusual at this season of the year. Ida E. Dietrich, Lee B. Floyd and Albert E. of new bungalows, and Paul J. Gallagher is now excavating for four new house three on Coleridge street and one on Dover street.

Recent sales at the estates include a plot 60x100 feet on the west side of Exeter street, north of Hampton avenue, a plot 60x100 feet on the east side of Exeter street, north of Hampton avenue; a plet 40x100 feet on the east side of Exeter street, south of Oriental Boulevard, and lach, Sigismund Wachster and Edward J. a plot 60x100 feet on the west side of Exeter street, south of Hampton avenue

PASSING OF OLD BURNS RESTAURANT

site Hippodrome, To Be Sold at Auction.

Just what will be done with the "L" shaped plot at present occupied by the Burns restaurant, at Nos. 783 and 785 Sixth avenue, forming an "L" to Nos. 102 and 104 West 45th street, is a problem Probably the fact that many hundreds of people visit the Hippodrome each day which is across the street from the propthey will have full control of all funds. erty, will have its effect on whatever improvements will be made

The property faces on Sixth avenue and on 45th street, and has a frontage of 50 feet on the avenue and 42 feet on the street, making it possible for the erection of a building that will have two entrances on two important thoroughfares, or for the erection of two separate buildings. The Burns restaurant is not in use at

present. In 1852 it was a well known place, visited by politicians and clubmen. The property is scheduled to be sold at public auction, at Supreme Court partifinancially to do the necessary renovating tion sale, by Joseph P. Day next Tuesday, to their properties on a proper business at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange salesroom.

NEW HOMES AT PARK HILL Every Modern Improvement.

The American Real Estate Company has just authorized the construction of three exceptionally fine houses for Park Hill, which will be offered for sale, ready for occupancy, this summer. These include a splendid Georgian Colonial house of brick of twelve rooms and three baths, including hall, living room, library, dining room, four splendid master bedrooms, two servants' bedrooms, billiard room and upstairs sleeping porch. This house will ba located on plot No. 5 in block No. 2 Park

Another one of the houses will be located on plot No. 8 block No. 12 Van Cortlandt Park avenue, and will be of Spanish mission architecture constructed of stucco, with red tiled roof. It will be in a commanding position on the land, and will have a beautiful terrace across the front of the property, creating a handsome appearance. This house will contain an exceptionally large living room. Its appointments consist of hall, living room, butler's pantry, kitchen, four spiendid master bedrooms, two master baths, two servants' bedrooms., servants' bath and a large billiard rogom from which may be obtained views of the Hudson River and the Palisades

The third house will be located on a large plot in block No. 20 Hillcrest avenue. It is of English design and will embody in its exterior treatment an excelfered by reason of shrinkage in the value lent combination of stone and shingle. of your real estate, and a further loss is This house will contain hall, living room, parlor, dining room, butler's pantry, kitchconcerted action is taken at once. Your en, four large master bedrooms, two massupport is of the utmost importance to ter bathrooms, sleeping porch, two ser you, if you value your investment. Im- vants' rooms and servants' bath and large billiard room.

BUYING AT SOUTH YONKERS BANKERS RENT BIG SPACE Purchasers of Lawrence Lots to Erect Houses.

The American Real Estate Company reports great success in the bargain sale of lots which it is conducting at the Lawtion of Valentine Lane and Riverdale ave-

Its many advantages and the low prices Pine streets, and will have direct access attracted prompt response from buyers. even at this season of the year. During the last week the following sales were re-

Dr. E. R. Lasher purchased Lots Nes. 29 and 190, on which he will build a private age on Manhasset Bay and a fine sandy house; M. Morrison purchased Lots Nos. bathing beach, large old trees, and nearly 101 and 102, an which he will build a pri- every plot has an unobstructed view of vate house; E. Wegmann purchased Lots the bay and Sound. The plots extend in Nos. 27 and 28, on which he will build a size from 160x150 feet up to 314 acres, and Tucker, Speyers & Co. leased at No. 35 private house; Miss Edna B. Lewis pur- to each purchaser the company gives a Waiter J. Salomon leased the store at apartment house, and Miss Florence L. the first loft at No. 80 Broadway, and No. 2: West 42d street to the La Louise Weeks purchased Lots Nos. 29, 20 and 31, space in No. 386 Broadway to the Global on which she will build a private house. Import Company.



EAST OF THE ROCKAWAY HEIGHTS PROPERTY, IN THE BROWNS VILLE SECTION, BROOKLYN.

TAX BILL AROUSES SILENT IN MANNER. MUCH OPPOSITION BUT HARD WORKER

on the Herrick-Schaap Measure.

By JOHN FINCK

The Herrick-Schaap bill, now before the on vacant property, has gained such imeadway and bring us to the danger point of realization. Whether this or similar bills lack of color gave a touch of asceticism which have threatened us for the last few rears are the creation of wild theorists, addists, or worse, yet we must realize that it is a condition and not a theory that confronts us.

Bills exempting buildings from taxation have been before the Legislature many years, and of late have gathered strength sufficient to awaken the alert into a realization of impending danger There can be no referendum to the people, for the reason that this is a social and conomic problem, difficult, and requiring expert knowledge as to conditions. referred to the voters, it would be treated is a political question, and inflamed demagogues would incite the people into a belief that the increase in building operaons will tend to lower rents, and that ill prove a strong incentive to procure While the fallacy of this propoition is apparent to the student of ecoiomics, yet the cry of lower rents will appeal amazingly to the average toller and secure his vote without much further deliberation.

The present law of taxation should stand until we secure a more satisfactor; substitute, and in this connection it would be well for us to consider some ether collecting revenues besides gathering % per cent of our taxes from eal estate.

If vacant land is to bear the burden of taxes, it would be impracticable for owners to permit land to be vacant and wait for the natural growth of value. As a result, there would be overbuilding and He says the whole trouble with New cies. In the course of several years, with vacant land plentifully improved, building operations would cease and the market become glutted with vacant structures.

There can be no demand created for rentals. It is purely a question of population, and wherever the population strongest, rentals will be largest. The demand for houses is limited to popula-

If vacant land were to bear the burden of taxation it would lead to complicated results. The owner who bought land in with new laws, practically amouconfiscation, might invoke the United States Constitution and allege the "impairing of the obligation of a contract. Owners of land would be confronted with Three Structures Planned with the option either to build or suffer a ruinous taxation. The object of taxation should merely be to obtain revenue for governmental purposes, and nothing has been suggested which would indicate *hat the bill is framed for such purpose, There are many properties that at the present time are not capable of improve ments, being either too far from the line of transit or else being in sections too remote for immediate development.

initiative and with their own resources. They must necessarily apply to some lending agency, and if an investigation is made and a neighborhood is not ripe for improvement, or if the section is overthen will it be difficult to obtain a build ing loan. Lenders will not loan on propreal estate situation knows that builders erection of buildings other than the buyer merely willing to buy. chance of profit.

Even if the improvement of vacant property will yield work to the many we must, however, remember that this is only a temporary relief, and when the boom has reached its utmost limit, as it must in the course of a few years, and finally collapses, then will there be a sudden cesembarrassed with a large number of houses and a still larger number of va-

There will necessarily be a large depreciation in values, and owners who have oiled for years to secure their possesions will find themselves unable to arrange the mortgages necessary to carry their holdings, and, as a result, will lose

TO BUILD MANY HOMES Plans for Eighty Houses at

Port Washington.

Horace G. Knowles, sales manager for the Port Washington Estates, reports good business all through the winter months owing to the electrification of the Long Island Railroad to Port Washington. Speaking on the subject, he said

"We could sell several more houses if demand for homes overlooking Manhasset Bay and Long Island Sound plans are being drawn for eighty new houses in Port Washington this year. The Port Washington Estates have 600 feet front-

Wire in the Real Estate World.

By F. A. AUSTIN.

There stood by the side of Joseph P. Legislature, which proposes to halve the Day at the Morris Park sale (now a part tax on buildings, and to put the burden of history as the world's record sale of real estate at auction) a figure whose quietness petus that, tinless decisive action is taken and air of repose were in marked conin opposition to the measure, it may make trast to the strident voice, eager action and gesturing arms of the auctioneer. A



J. CLARENCE DAVIES.

York real estate is that too much property is handled by amateur

to features whose sharpness was accentuated by a Vandyke beard. Yet, with all his calmness of demeanor

this man was keenly alive to all that ears, but his eyes and his knowledge of that are uppermost in the mind gave him of bidders raised before men on the floor grounds is between Dumont detailed to watch for them saw them; he sensed bids about to be made before they attention to the man or woman about to Hopkinson avenue and Bristol street.

the auctioneer, and what he said showed thildren. It will contain a men's open that he know how the sale was going; air gymnasium, a women's open air gymthat he had some form of telepathic com- nasium, gymnasium building, swimming munication with the minds of those pool, wading pool, little children's playaround him. His eyes scanned the map of ground, ball field and park accommodathe land plot, and at the psychological tions. moment he would advise leaving one sec nent which would persuade a hesitating STORE AND LOFTS tion for another or suggest some argu-Again, there are few owners who have bidder to go higher than his opponent, sufficient money to build on their own Behind his serenity his brain was working at lightning speed.

This man was J. Clarence Davies "Ground value or market value"-the same thing, he holds—'is what a willing New Fifth Avenue Building at 52d seller will sell for and what a willing built and "to let" signs much in evidence, buyer will pay. I don't mean an eager seller or an eager buyer. Eagerness gen erally means that the seller wants to sell erties that cannot find ready tenants, and for a certain purpose or that the buyer overproduction is sure to cause this wants a certain piece of property for a best located business properties in the result. Every one acquainted with the certain purpose, in which case the value is above or below what it would be if the and investors need no incentive for the seller were merely willing to sell and the & Clarkson, who are foremost real estate

produce the best results. Professionals renting and the management of this fine get profits, where amateurs get nothing building. Firms and individuals in need but losses. Look at the splendid real of store or loft space in this part of the sation of building, and owners will be Company, Henry Morgenthau, Robert E. and cost and terms of the leases. Simon, Walter J. Salomon, George F. At the northeast corner of 52d street Johnson & Sons, the late Benjamin Alt- and Fifth avenue stood about twelve man, the Herald Square Realty Company, years ago a building which was for many Frederick Johnson, Henry Phipps and years known as the Hotel Langham Robert Goelet. I was a member of a Morton F. Plant bought the property as committee which recently appraised the a site for a home for his own occupancy. properties of the American Real Estate The excavation work was about to be Company, and it was one of the most done when Mr. Plant purchased and imunusual appraisais in which I have had proved a large plot at the southeast corone or two experts, this company engaged a spacious mansion for himself. Subsethe services of a committee of the most quently the late E. H. Harriman became highly rated appraisers in the city. This the owner of the corner parcel which committee inspected the various prop- formerly was a part of the Hotel Langerties of the company and then held sev- ham site. He, too, intended to build a eral meetings to fix values. The figures dwelling house there which would be his finally decided on represented a consensus city home. He changed his mind on disof opinion. And then, to outconserve con- covering that retail trade was expanding servatism, the company marked these very rapidly in the Fifth avenue district figures down a bit. "The appraisal of these properties

brought out some interesting facts regard- would be located in the section. ing the trend of values, where the utmost efficiency of management is combined with the utmost ecenomy in operation. and the expert knowledge I have already spoken of in buying, in various parts of

the Henry Morgenthau Company, the Johnsons and the American Real Estate

Rents Sixth Avenue Store.

and basement at No. 80 Sixth avenue for Leo J. Kreshover to Maria Schmitt for

BROOKLYN SECTION READY FOR BUILDERS

It Is Rockaway Heights Near Brownsville, Where \$250,000 Persons Live.

LOTS WORTH \$100,000 SOLD SINCE AUGUST

Many Realty Men Think This Part of Borough Will Be Rapidly Improved.

A little over seven years ago that section of Brooklyn known as Brownsville, where now are 250,000 persons, was a sparsely settled place. Adjoining Brownsville is Rockaway Heights, opened last August to the public for settlement through the F. C. Rose Realty Corporaion, selling agents for the Rockaway Parkway Company. Since that time lots worth more than \$160,000 have been sold. and many real estate experts think that Opinion of Real Estate Man J. Clarence Davies a Live this unrestricted development will soon become a well-built-up section of the Brownsville district. There are numerous sites suitable for

nodern tenement houses at Rockawa Heights, and such buildings can be profitably erected immediately, according to persons thoroughly acquainted with the building situation in this part of Brook "It was the building of the Williams

burg Bridge which made possible the creation of a great home, manufacturing and store centre in Brooklyn known as Brownsville," said a well known real estate man yesterday. "For fifteen years the section was of little consequence. "Property was in the market at very low figures, but the outlook for the de velopment of the land was so dim that speculators passed by the place and invaded the more promising district lying to the east in what is generally known as East New York. "A few men from the East Side of

Manhattan, who were engaged in the Being thoroughly renovated and modmanufacture of clothing and other prod- ernized. Inquire ucts of needlework, were among the firs to bring about the development of Brownsville, which is a monument to their "Brownsville has many churches, banks

and trust companies, theatres, public libraries, markets, stores and nine public schools, one of which is the largest in the state. The section is within the five-cent fare

zone of the greater city. By that is meant that one may ride for a single fare from any part of Brownsville, and consequently from any point of Rockaway Heights to City Hall, Manhattan. It is also only a single fare ride from Brownsville and from Rockaway Heights to many of the big ocean and summer re sorts on Long Island. When the dual subway routes are in

operation the Brownsville district will be large recipient of rapid transit advantages. It will then be possible for a rest dent of that part of Brooklyn to ride to all the principal home, trade and amuse ment centres of Manhattan and The Bronx for a single fare. "On the east of Rockaway Heights runs

the Long Island Rallroad. It is thought the railroad will cause many manufactur ers to locate at Rockaway Heights. "Within three blocks of the Rockaway

Heights property the city has purchased was going on. He could not hear with his land to construct one of the finest and largest playgrounds in the country. the index expression gives to the thoughts The project has the hearty support of the Playground Association of America, information far more accurate than that for the reason that it is the first real which mere words conveyed to many of attempt to give the city a playground good faith, only to find himself confronted the listeners. He not only saw the hands like that in Chicago. The location of the vonia avenue, Douglas street and Hopkins avenue, and a smaller parcel of land were made and directed the auctioneer's between Dumont avenue, Blake avenue,

"The playground is planned for the en-At intervals he would speak quietly to joyment of the grown-ups as well as the

ON LANDMARK SITE

Street Corner Replaced Hotel Langham.

The eight story store and loft building upper Fifth avenue retail section. Ogden agents of this city and whose capable "The whole trouble with New York real management of real property has merited estate is that too much of it is handled for them the large measure of success by amateurs, who do not know how to that is theirs, have full charge of the estate investments obtained by oper- town will be well repaid by consulting atores like the American Real Estate them as to the available space to rent

share. Instead of taking the word of ner of 62d street and Fifth avenue, with and that it would not be many years be fore high class store and loft buildings

Brooklyn Dwellings Sold. Charles E. Rickerson resold the thre story limestone American basement dwell-

ing house, on lot 21x100 feet, at No. 555 "The judgment of the professional, as lat street, between Eighth avenue and opposed to that of the amateur, has been amply demonstrated in The Bronx by Patterson. The house is leased to the Chilian Consul, Ricardo Sanchez. house is one of the two built some years ago by I. S. Levy. The other house is oc cupied by Supreme Court Justice I. M. Kapper: No. 551 1st street is occupied by The Duross Company leased the store Congressman Calder, and opposite is the residence of Henry Roulston, the grocer. B. F. Sforza sold for Henry Sorenson and 68, on which he will shortly build an Charles A. Gould to Adolph Spear & Co. five years; also the store at No. 22 Elev- and others the lot, 20x100 feet, with one onth avenue to Lipshitz & Davis, and the story frame taxpayer, at No. 6016 Fourstore No. 313 Budson street to Frederick teenth avenue, junction of New Utrecht

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Commuting distance; 160 acres fartile land, under cultivation; elevation 650 ft.; fine views; magnificent house. English architecture, 8 master's rooms, 5 baths; 6 servants' rooms, bath; large living room, reception hall, dining room, library, servants' dining room, electric light, &c; fine large garage, quarters for chauffeur and family; superintendent's cottage; dairy; fine gardens; all kinds of fruit; tennis court; place cost owner \$250,000; asking price, \$150,000, faily furnished; any reasonable offer will be considered, Particulars,

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